

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 965

By Johnson

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the students, alumni, faculty, staff, and administration of Franklin High School upon the school's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are honored to recognize those educational institutions that are celebrating momentous occasions in their illustrious histories; and

WHEREAS, Franklin High School, which is celebrating the 100th anniversary of its founding, is one such academic institution wholly deserving of the recognition of this Body; and

WHEREAS, Franklin High School has a long and rich history of providing education to the students of Williamson County; and

WHEREAS, utilizing several upstairs rooms in the Franklin Institute at Five Corners near downtown Franklin, Franklin High School officially opened its doors in 1910 with an enrollment of twenty students and a faculty consisting of two teachers; and

WHEREAS, Miss Nell Shea, a capable and exceptional educator, served as one of the first principals for the new high school; and

WHEREAS, in 1912, three students were presented with their diplomas as the first graduating class of Franklin High School; and

WHEREAS, in the fall of 1926, under the guidance of principal G.E. Craddock, Franklin High School moved from Five Corners to a new site atop a hill on Columbia Avenue after experiencing tremendous growth in the student population; and

WHEREAS, thirty-three students made up the first class to graduate from the new high school, and the faculty then consisted of ten teachers; and

WHEREAS, in 1941, Franklin High School first received accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools with a curriculum of English, Math, History, Science, French, Latin, Home Economics, and Manual Arts; and

WHEREAS, in January 1956, the Columbia Avenue school building burned to the ground, leaving only the gymnasium and a few basement classrooms standing; local churches were pressed into service as classes continued until a new building was constructed on the present campus site on Hillsboro Road; and

WHEREAS, under the direction of principal Jerry Sutton, Franklin High School resumed classes in November of 1957 in the new building which included nineteen classrooms, a gymnasium, cafeteria, library, study hall, offices, and three shops; and

WHEREAS, under Mr. Sutton's tenure as principal the school experienced increased growth and expansion; the senior class numbered 184 students and the faculty consisted of forty-five teachers by 1967; and

WHEREAS, in 1968, Natchez High School and Franklin High School were combined with both campuses housing Franklin High School students; and

WHEREAS, with further additions to the Franklin High School campus, the senior class numbered 442 students by 1981; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, new renovations and additions were completed to accommodate the tremendous population growth that the City of Franklin and Williamson County were experiencing; and

WHEREAS, continuing in its heralded tradition of excellence, in 2000 Franklin High School became the first high school in Tennessee to be accepted as an affiliate member of the International Baccalaureate Program; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Willie Dickerson, the current principal of Franklin High School, was appointed in 2002 and under her esteemed guidance Franklin High School continues to be one of highest rated high schools in the state, producing top quality students who are well prepared for the rigors and complexities of the global world; and

WHEREAS, under Mrs. Dickerson's exemplary leadership, Franklin High School recently went through a new expansion, renovating and updating the old campus and creating an incredible academic atmosphere for the more than 1,700 students attending the school; and

WHEREAS, Franklin High School students not only excel in the classroom, but also boast an exceptional record in extracurricular activities as well: a nationally recognized band program; active forensic, vocal, and music programs; numerous student clubs and organizations; several National Merit Scholarship honorees; numerous state championships in athletics; and competitive athletic programs in every sport sanctioned by the TSSAA; and

WHEREAS, since the humble beginnings of Franklin High School, the faculty, staff, and administration have striven to carry out their educational mission, preparing young students for a complex world; and

WHEREAS, Franklin High School has served as one of the great academic institutions in our state and nation, and the students, alumni, faculty, staff, and administration of this exceptional and historic school should be appropriately honored for ensuring that Tennessee's students and future leaders are prepared to meet the many challenges of society; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate the students, alumni, faculty, staff, and administration of Franklin High School upon the celebration of the school's 100th anniversary, extending our gratitude for the significant impact Franklin High School continues to have on the citizens of Tennessee, and wishing the entire Franklin High School community every success in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.